Section 172 (a) of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides that the SEB shall be deemed to be the State Transmission Utility (STU) and a licensee under the provisions of the Act for a period of one year from the appointed date, i.e. 10th June, 2003. Section 172 (a) further provides that the State Government may, by notification, authorise the State Electricity Board (SEB) to continue to function as the State Transmission Utility or a licensee for such further period beyond the period of one year of the provisions of the Act coming into force, as may be mutually decided by the Central Government and the State Government.

So far, 12 States have reorganized their SEBs.

Nine States have requested the Central Government to agree for extension of time for their respective SEBs to continue as the STU and a licensee and extension of time has been agreed to. In addition, the State of Assam has requested for extension of time for their SEB to continue with the limited function of only trading and this request has also been agreed to.

Electrification of villages in Rajasthan

1430. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in Rajasthan under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana so far.

(b) whether target fixed for 2005-06 has been achieved.

(c) whether any target has been fixed for electrification of villages in the States during 2006-07.

(d) if so, the details thereof including the amount earmarked for the purpose;

(e) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent proposals in the above context;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) by when Government would approve the amount for the same?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Rajasthan Government has reported wiring of 230 villages so far under Rajiv Gandhi Garmeen Vidyutikaran Yojana.

(b) Against the target of 124 villages, Rajasthan has reported wiring of 230 villages during 2005-06 under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana.

(c) 1150 villages are targeted to be electrified in Rajasthan during the 2006-07 under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana.

(d) Funds under RGGVY are disbursed commensurating with the progress reported by the State. An amount of Rs. 87.05 crore has already been disbursed to Rajasthan under RGGVY as on 28.7.2006.

(e) to (g) Rajasthan Government so far has submitted 41 Detailed Project Reports (DRPs) involving an outlay of Rs. 1031.73 crore covering electrification of 868 un-electrified villages, re-electrification of 3655 de-electrified villages and intensive electrification of already electrified 34871 villages in 32 districts of the State. 25 Projects have been sanctioned with an outlay of Rs. 406.77 crore covering electrification of 676 un-electrified villages, re-electrification of 886 de-electrified villages and intensive electrification of 14338 already electrified villages in 24 districts of the State. In addition, two DRPs have been accorded 'in principle' approval, covering electrification of 25 un-electrified villages, re-electrification of 233 de-electrified villages and electrification of 1931 already electrified villages with an outlay of Rs. 74.15 crore.

Power theft and distribution losses

1431. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the power theft and distribution losses at present and the last two years in the country, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) whether the burden of power theft as well as distribution losses is passed on to the consumers throughout the country; if not, reasons that this burden is passed on to the consumers by private power companies in Delhi?